



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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<http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist07>

CALTRANS COMMUTER ALERT!

INTERSTATE 5/STATE ROUTE 126 IN SANTA CLARITA

PLAN AHEAD, LEAVE EARLY IF TRAVELING ON I-5 OR STATE ROUTE 126 THROUGH SANTA CLARITA OVER LABOR DAY WEEKEND

Santa Clarita -- The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) advises motorists traveling over Labor Day Weekend on the Golden State Freeway (I-5) and State Route 126 near Magic Mountain in Santa Clarita to plan ahead, leave early and become familiar with alternate routes due to ongoing construction lane closures for the Magic Mountain Parkway/Santa Clara River Bridge replacement; and for the I-5/State Route 126 Interchange improvements.

One southbound lane and one northbound lane of I-5 are closed from Magic Mountain Parkway to Rye Canyon Road in Santa Clarita through March, 2005, leaving three lanes in each direction open to motorists. In Santa Clarita, The Old Road is the suggested alternate route during periods of congestion. The Magic Mountain Parkway on-ramp to northbound I-5 is also closed during construction.

In addition, the following extended closures on State Route 126 are in effect:

- One eastbound lane and one westbound lane of State Route 126 are closed from I-5 to the Castaic Junction off-ramp (one lane in each direction remains open to motorists)
- The Castaic Junction on-ramp to eastbound State Route 126 is closed

Signs are posted to assist motorists. The speed limit through the construction zone is 55 MPH and is strictly enforced by the California Highway Patrol. Traffic fines are doubled in construction zones.

For road conditions in California (excluding unforeseen traffic incidents) please call the Caltrans Highway Information Number at 1-800-427-ROAD (7623). By speaking the number of the route desired -- or using a touch-tone telephone and simply entering the highway/route number of interest, callers can get up-to-date road conditions on any highway in California. Motorists are also encouraged to tune into local radio stations for up-to-the-minute freeway reports before starting out on trips.

Caltrans thanks the motoring public for their patience during these roadway improvements. For more information, please call the Caltrans Public Affairs office at (213) 897-3656 or 897-3630 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, or visit the website at www.dot.ca.gov/dist07/route5/corridor or the City of Santa Clarita website at www.santa-clarita.com. Caltrans reminds motorists to please drive with extra caution while traveling through freeway work zones. Please, ***SLOW FOR THE CONE ZONE***.

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